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EYES ONLY

SUBJECT: New York Negotiations on Cuba.

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FYI. We recognize that it may not be possible to get agreement to use of American bottoms, although we would seek to minimize any political difficulty by offering ships which are not under US military jurisdiction, i.e., Coast Guard, merchant or Geodetic Survey ships. At same time, we are exploring on priority basis possible availability in or close to Caribbean area of neutral ships which might be used for purposes. ~~These ships are not to be used for the purpose of transporting military stores, and are not to be used for the purpose of transporting military personnel.~~ However, you should not initially indicate this either to Morozov or Narasimhan.

Re financing UN inspection operation, as indicated Deptel 11147, we prefer that if UN is to foot bill, financing be provided under Section 1(a) of 1961 General Assembly Resolution authorizing SYG make commitments not exceeding 2 million dollars as he certifies related to maintenance peace and security.

Narasimhan's suggestion ICRC assess its members not feasible because ICRC does not have membership which it can ~~xxxi~~ assess, but comprises committee of Swiss ~~nations~~ nationals. Normally ICRC expenses are advanced or ~~reimbursed by interested parties who seek their services for special projects.~~
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As to costs of vessels, US would be prepared to make appropriate US ships available on non-reimbursable basis.

Defense

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Defense has ^{developed} ~~suggested~~ following verification procedures:

1. There would be established on the high seas two check stations:
 - a. One station ship in the vicinity of Havana;
 - b. One station ship in the vicinity of the windward passage.
2. With respect to the above-mentioned ships, the Soviet Government would give UN Headquarters in New York timely notice of those enroute to Cuba, together with a description of their cargoes.
3. All such ships would be instructed by the Soviet Union to establish communications with ~~the~~ appropriate station ship on 500 KC when within 500 miles of ~~the~~ check station. When communications are established, ~~the~~ incoming ship would give its name, position, course, speed, estimated time of arrival at check station, and port of destination. The incoming ships would maintain communications with the UN station ship on a radio watch schedule and frequency arranged with that station ship.
4. Rendezvous time and position would be signaled to ~~the~~ incoming ship by ~~the~~ UN inspector on board ~~the~~ station ship.
5. The incoming ship would be prepared to receive UN inspectors on arrival at ~~the~~ rendezvous. ~~The~~ incoming ship would facilitate such inspection of ~~the~~ vessel and cargo as ~~the~~ inspectors consider necessary by opening hatches, holds, and spaces, and by having all papers readily available.
Each
6. ~~The~~ UN inspection team would consist of approximately eight persons, who would be ICRC personnel.
7. ~~The~~ UN would request all nations carrying cargo to Cuba from bloc ports to comply with the above procedures.

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8. If any ship is found to be carrying offensive weapons, as listed in the Presidential Proclamation of October 23, 1962, the UN inspectors would immediately notify SYG, who we would expect to notify us of this fact.

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